

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
19 May 2005 (19.05.2005)

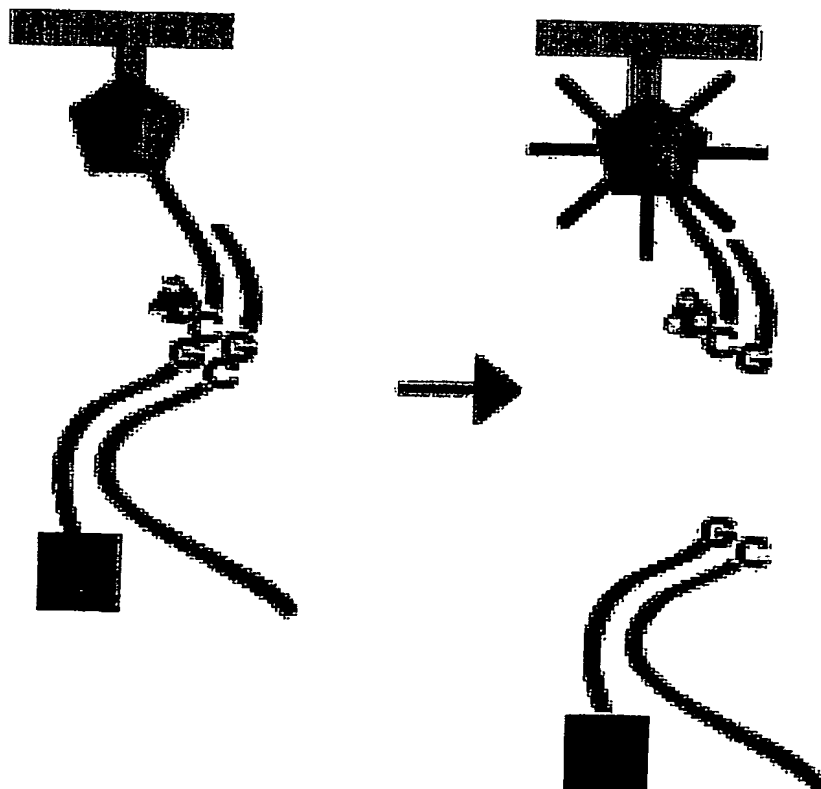
PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/045069 A3**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **C12Q 1/68** (74) Agent: SCHUBERT, Klemens; Neue Promenade 5, 10178 Berlin (DE).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/EP2004/012853 (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (22) International Filing Date: 9 November 2004 (09.11.2004) (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), Latin America and the Caribbean (AR, BO, BR, CL, CO, CR, CU, EC, EV, G1, GE, GR, GT, HN, JO, KE, KM, KN, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, RE, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VE, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW).
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 103 53 419.9 9 November 2003 (09.11.2003) DE
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD FOR INVESTIGATING CYTOSINE METHYLATION IN DNA SEQUENCES BY MEANS OF HEMI-METHYLATION SENSITIVE RESTRICTION ENZYMES



(57) Abstract: The following invention concerns an enzymatic method for investigating cytosine methylation in DNA sequences. The DNA to be investigated is hybridized to oligonucleotides. The hybrids are reacted with restriction enzymes, which are able to distinguish hemi-methylated DNA double strands either from unmethylated or from homogenously methylated DNA double strands. The occurrence or non-occurrence of restriction (and thereby methylation status of the cytosine positions to be investigated) can be determined by various techniques. The method is particularly suitable for the diagnosis of cell proliferative disorders (including cancer) and other diseases associated with a change of the methylation status as well as for the prognosis of undesired drug effects.

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SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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**Published:**

- *with international search report*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

**(88) Date of publication of the international search report:**

21 July 2005